



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in
ADVOCACY

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E-Legislative Update

April 22 – 28, 2013



April 22th marks the beginning of the last week of the legislative session. Sine die, the last day allowed for regular session under our state constitution, falls on April 28th.

With the regular legislative session coming to an end, the House and Senate are expected to approve a capital and operating budget. Lawmakers are currently negotiating a budget that both legislative bodies can support.

The House proposes spending \$34.5 billion, more than \$1 billion beyond the proposal approved by the Senate. The House proposal would increase K-12 education funding by \$1.3 billion while the Senate would increase it by \$1 billion to address the State Supreme Court ruling. The House proposal supports repealing or narrowing 15 tax exemptions while the Senate proposal does not. The House proposal preserves more funding for human services compared to the Senate's proposal. Both the House and Senate proposals opt into Medicaid expansion under the new Affordable Care Act. The Senate proposal would repeal the cost-of-living adjustments for teachers, while the House suspends it. Budget proposals can be viewed [here](#).

There is still an opportunity to voice your opinion on the budget by [contacting your legislator](#). You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

Because the state budget is an overarching issue, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs provides updates on important milestones in budget development as well as focuses on bills that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration.

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs provides information weekly through our e-legislative update and website on committee hearings, bills, and other events of interest throughout the legislative session. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's](#) Legislative Review.

Bills passed by the legislature and delivered to the Governor can be viewed [here](#).

Information is current as of: April 18, 2013.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).